ight here in Wall Street. I meet her

quite frequently; we lunch together; we

Miss Florence Spencer Tells of the Private Libraries Financial Concerns Maintain and of the Women Who Manage Them-A New Feminine Calling.

Stowed away in some of the big buildings of Wall street, their presence perhaps unsuspected by the regular customers of the banking and brokerage nouses with which they are connected are a number of capable young women who are trained librarians of a special kind. The libraries of which they have charge are made up of volumes of staitatics, legal decisions, financial and commercial reports and the like. These young women get good salaries for their work, and the specialization of their talent gives them professional standing.

One of the largest and most important libraries of Wall street is that of the National City Bank. On the top floor of some 3,500 volumes, presided over by Miss Florence Spencer, who is a very satisfactory example of the librarian class mentioned.

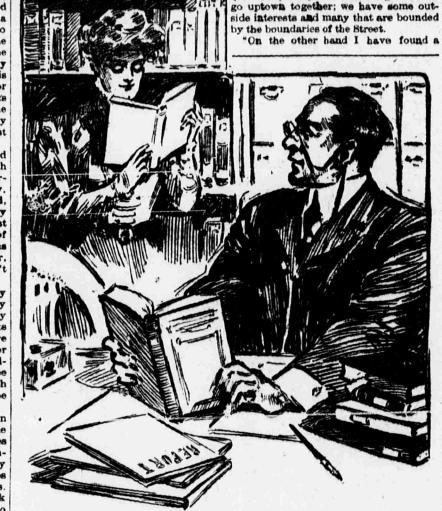
As you discover her retreat by walking through a long suite of sunny rooms, the view from the windows of which em-New York blending with marine insets, overestimated. you recall the statement of an English visitor that New York was the quietest city in the world. Not- a sound pene- State reports of legal decisions, histories trates the heavy walls; even the footfalls and reports of railroads, statistical inare lost in the pile of thick rugs, and when formation of all kinds, and incidentally you softly open the door of the principal we have reports covering the histories that it is occupied. Finally a slim, girlish While it is a private library, the bank figure in a gown whose color fits into officials allow the courtesy of its use to

or less connected with the past. There is a story told of a man who was asked if he had read a certain book much talked about at the moment, and he said in a very tired tone no, he was waiting to see if it would blow over. Most of the modern fiction it seems to me is in the state of blowing over or else it has already blown. Naturally when your work among books of that kind it has more or ess of an ephemeral character, just as the library work associated with the classical departments takes you away from the present and ties your interest to dead and gone periods.

"The work in a library of this kind orings you every day face to face with live issues. You are studying the commer cial problems that are making history. You see your country forging ahead, making its mistakes and learning by them, you read the neinds of the greatest financiers of the age, and columns of figures that to many are simply columns of figures are to you symbols of power. epoch making lines and curves. I don't see how any one can call them dry.

"There is not a book in the library of the bank's building there is a collection which has any value to the curiosity seeker; the bindings are practically valueless, just able to hold the contents together, and probably judged by a mere uestion of market worth the newspaper clippings are the crux of the whole collection, but judged by its importance as a whole in saving time and strength braces the wonderful roof pictures of the value of the collection cannot be

. "Like most libraries of this kind in similar establishments, it consists of the library room you are not at first conscious and standing of some 70,000 corporations



SEARCHING FOR A DEAD RAILROAD.

fied piles, to a strong sheet of manila type of woman whose work is even more president of the bank, Mr. Vanderlip, and when they are returned to me, either placed on the files in a form that I have on manila sheets, where they can be easily read and handled."

Miss Spencer makes a little conversational tack away from the specific details of her work, to which she returns later. "My own personal observation of the women engaged in work of this kind has given me lots of surprises," she says.

When I had the opportunity to take it up I thought of myself as really hardly filling the required formula of the business woman, sparticularly the woman whose work took her along these lines. "I pictured such a woman as simply

radiating nervous energy, snapping at new ideas as a little puppy snaps at bits of biscuit or a bird hops about from his perch to the floor of his cage, never quiet. thought of her as rather severe in dress, doing away with all the feminine fripperies that I love and meeting men in a good fellow kind of way instead of keeping alive their admiration for the sex along accepted lines.

paper and are sent downstairs to the important and who is the absolute opposite in every respect of the type I mention. This second woman is small and that day or afterward, are immediately quiet, kind of mouselike in her ways, looking up in a sort of frightened, shy found most convenient-that is, pasted manner if any one speaks to her suddenly and scurrying away just as fast as she can from observation. Yet the woman I have in mind has for fifteen years been in charge of the statistical records of a very important brokerage firm. She is a recognized authority and her services, according to the statement of one of the financial magnates at its head, simply cannot be estimated in dollars and cents.

"Naturally I have formed my conclusions in regard to the business woman, and even in the time my work has been located here I have seen a decided change in her personality and point of view.

"At first it seemed to me that having to struggle against a more conservative and complex atmosphere in the East than the Western woman has had to face the business woman, particularly in the Wall Street section, was putting on an artificial aggressiveness, was obliged or thought she was obliged to hide her real self continually for fear her sensitiveness would Well, I have found that type of woman be hurt, for fear she would be misunder-



business woman of the East and her sister I have learned to appreciate them prop-

marked in every class from the working eliminate from her life without really

you had known her always, and it is not Spencer if the young women who keep

merely on the surface but it is really a in touch with the financial condition of

essential lesson,"

fundamental quality, as you will soon affairs develop into speculators, and she find out if you put her to the test of friendship.

stood by the very men whose good opinion

she naturally and femininely craved in

men down here and in other husiness parts

of New York are to-day just themselves

and they are just as varied in type as are

the women whose lives are bounded by

domestic rules or those who are com-

monly known as society women, and the

two extremes I have mentioned have

between them a whole lot of interesting

personalities, so different that to say

that a woman looks like a business or a

professional woman has no more real

definition to it than to say that she looks

"The same advance along the right lines

noticeable in the dress of the Wall

Street woman. It used to be that a woman

either went to the extreme of wearing

foolish futilities to business for fear she

would look the part or adopted an ag-

gressive mesculine cut to her clothes for

"Now the business woman simply

studies the suitability of time, place and

action. She realizes that second hand

finery is objectionable in every place,

but more than anywhere else in the busi-

ness world, but if she is a true woman she

loves femininities of costume too well to deprive herself of them when she can

well afford to wear the best of the kind.

I suppose if you were epigrammatic and

accustomed to putting things in a few

no longer explains, and that is a great

of the West, Miss Spencer finds not a

variance brought about by trade or pro-

fession but a difference that is just as

"Everything out there seems to me

more wholesome and simple than here,"

she says. "She is not reserved because

she does not have to be, and when you

meet her for the first time you feel as if

agyance along the right lines."

girl to the wife of the millionaire.

words you might say that the woman

In regard to the difference between the

s domestic or social woman.

fear she wouldn't.

of good librarians.

"I really believe that after the first

in my mental and physical makeup.

be who had never been taught to study

the laws of cause and effect or to arrive

at logical conclusions from given prem-

ises, but I would enjoy a good play or a fine work of fiction all the more because

"It is wonderful how much the profes-

sional woman learns to cut out of and

losing anything of importance. Person

ally I believe it would be a very good thing

for every woman to have a certain amount

of business experience just to learn that

The question is then asked of Miss

"That time has long since passed.

her pioneering.

"In New York you are struck imme liately by the selfishness and self-seeking. You find it of course at a tension in the husiness and professional world, for the competition is tremendously keen and it to risk the chances that are involved in is a case of the survival of the fittest. I am much impressed by this as shown in the conversational reserve; I don't mean in protecting the interests of the house with which she is connected by refusing to chatter of its doings, but in a more general sense. The business woman of New York always seems to be on her guard, even when she is with her best

that died from anæmia several years ago. wouldn't dare tell you just how many books I had to look through before I disdirectly to this road or had an indirect bearing upon it.

shakes her head violently.

'I have never known that effect to follow the employment of young women in these libraries," she answers. "There are a number of us who invest a little, but perhaps we know too much or not enough buying stocks on margin.

"I don't believe women who are conversant with the life of the Street develop into gamblers; it is as a general thing those who don't know until too late. I think it very rarely happens that a woman looks at a position of this kind as a thing that might be used as a steppingstone to gain of that kind.

"In fact the feminine librarians of these "What questions am I called upon to big downtown libraries, so far as I have answer? Oh, every sort that has any discovered, are content to remain in this king business. For field. The young man who takes up the instance, the other day I was required work is usually looking forward to a suddenly to find out about a little railroad change to bond work or something of that kind. He wants to get into the market, to become an expert statistician, and while the woman has in a number of cases covered every little item that related proved herself competent; the majority of her sex are content with ambitions of a less pronounced character."

> CANES AND THE TARIFF. Simple Way of Saving 40 Per Cent.

Duty on Blackthorns for Gifts. A traveller from Europe who arrived recently brought with him a dozen blackthorn canes. He purchased them in London as souvenirs of his trip, intending to present them to friends. The canes were very fine specimens of the blackthorn and were appreciated by those who received them.

"These must have cost a good round sum," said one man, "and the duty must

have been quite an item."
"That's where you make a mistake."
was the reply. "You will notice that was the reply. "You will notice none of these canes has a ferrule.
"When I visited the store in I

mone of these canes has a ferrule.

"When I visited the store in London where they make a specialty of canes and walking sticks I told the clerk what I wanted and he showed me a handsome lot finished in different styles and the cost was from a dollar each up. While I was trying to make up my mind which to select he asked me if I was going to take them to the States. I told him I was.

"Now those clerks on the other side are well posted on many things that we pay little or no attention to, and he surprised me by his knowledge of the tariff laws here, but when I thought it over later I concluded that it was a part of his business to understand our laws because many of that store's customers must be Americans. He said it would be better for me to purchase canes that had no ferrules, for two reasons. First, I could not correctly guess the length of canes my friends would carry and it would be an easy matter for them on this side to take the cane to a store, have it out to the proper length and finished.

"Then he added the other reason. If you have ferrules on the canes they are finished articles and as such you have you have ferrules on the canes they are finished articles and as such you have to pay duty of 40 per cent. on them when you reach New York. Without the ferrules they are classed as unmanufactured and are admitted free."

## TIME THAT COSTS. One Beason Why More Photographs of

Factories Are Not Taken.

\*The statement that it cost the Standard Oil Company \$48,000 to cease operations during the funeral services of H. H. Rogers is an apt illustration of the value of time in an industry," said the professional photographer. "If it wasn't for that we

MECCA FOR COLLEGE SHOWS "To look through two or three hundred volumes for a single line or paragraph is work that is of course familiar to every law student and every guardian of books

NORTHAMPTON THE ONE TOWN THEY HOPE TO BOOK,

Possibilities of Pleasant Meetings

of this character. The patience of women is proverbial, and I suppose that may be another reason besides our fondness for For There They May Be Sure of an Audi economic details that goes to the making ence of Smith College Girls, With

-Amherst First to Visit the Town. disappointment of not discovering the information that you want right away NORTHAMPTON, Mass, June 4 .-- As the a kind of Sherlock Holmes interest is home of Smith College this town has more aroused. You get a clue, then lose it, find it again or unearth a new hint, and than one claim to distinction, not the least so on, until some day you open a book of which is that it is the Mesoa for the and there is the desired knowledge right college show. With the exception of New York, which is the earthly paradise of all stage folk, amateur and professional, no "What psychologic effect does a life devoted in its busy hours to the study and city is so invaded by college dramatics. Every year the booking list of the theatre compilation of figures and statistics

has the appearance of a New England show after a while? You mean does a college directory.

The residents of Northampton do not woman lose interest in the matters that would otherwise concern her? I don't provide the patronage; they are no more think so. I certainly am not conscious interested in the college play than the of any radical change except for the better people of other New England cities. It is the hope of playing to a baloony glit-Naturally a woman who has learned tering with Smith girls that brings these o concentrate her mind on certain subcollege players to Northampton, for the jects has to cut out many that are of less Smith girl when she goes to the theatre importance to her, but that does not mean sits in the balcony, that is if she has no that she loses touch with the fundamental escort. When you consider that Smith has interests of her sex. I may not be as keen 1,500 students it is easy to imagine that about a work of fiction or a play that is would be a difficult matter to provide insults my intelligence as a woman might

escorts for all. It is Amherst that is responsible for the prominence of Northampton in the school ule of the college play. The town of Amherst was set down six miles from Northampton and the trolley has made the trip popular. The time when Amharst first produced Shakespears for the edification of Smith is, as college traditions go, "beyond the memory of man." Her annual appearance there has now become an event. This year Smith gave the Amherst production of "As You Like It' a generous sendoff on its Western trip and again this month celebrated its home-

coming with an even larger sudience. Amherst was not long permitted to enjoy this field alone. Actors of other colleges began to look toward Northempton with envious eyes. Boston Tech appeared with her annual "show," consisting of embyro engineers in the guise of pirouette dancers, chorus ladies and comedians. The "Tech show" made hit, and has been coming ever since. Harvard caught on and sends down the Delta Upsilon fraternity with its scholarly revivals of Old English comedy, and also the Pi Eta club.

In 1908 Wesleyan, which is in the earlier stages of the development of dramatics, appeared at Northampton with "The Girl and the Graduate," a musical show with its scene laid at Smith. Its success was so tremendous that the Dramatio Association took heart and recently journeyed there with its first atten at classic comedy, "The Good Natured Man," only to learn that Smith girls are more interested in hearing themselves discussed than in dramatic literature. Columbia achieved instantaneous at this season in her musical show, while Yale is to make her bow this month. If Williams overcomes her stay at home tendencies it is probable that the Cap and Bells will make the attempt, while Pennsylvania has already enlisted as a candidate for Smith favor.

Northampton's only theatre is unusual not only in its position by itself in the midst of small parklike areas at the foot of the college hill but also in the fact that it was a gift to the municipality and is at present conducted by the city fathers. at present conducted by the city fathers. There is something like a censorship prevailing, as both the theatre trustees and the college authorities recognize the possibilities of trouble. Occasionally a play slips in which startles the seventeen dignified holders of trustee passes and causes them to seek a hurried conference with the manager, but not often is it so. Under such conditions the college show is welcomed. The theatre manager signs a generous contract, with an assurance of good husiness, while the news of the of good business, while the news of the engagement is rapidly spread among the

girls of the campus.

When the college men arrive on the afternoon of their performance there is a rush to the telephone booths. Those who are fortunate enough to possess at least a telephone acquaintance with a Smith student call up the campus houses, and it for memorate a days engage. and in a few moments a dozen engag-ments are made for dinner or the thousand An exodus from the hotel follows and the An exodus from the hotel follows and the stage manager begins to worry as to how he is going to round up his men in time for the attentions of the makeup artist. A little later the advertising manager feels the effects of the movement in the shape of requests for passes. At the performance those who have only brief parts accomplish wonders in the speed with which they resume their normal appearance and from seats "out in front" smile indulgently at the attempts of their less favored brethren.

THE AUTO BALKED. And So the Owner and Chauffeur Rods

for Three Trips on the Forry. It certainly was an embarrassing situation for the chauffeur and for the owner of the car too. Both were trying their level best to get off the ferryboet.

but the machine was in no hurry. They had managed to roll part of the way down to the gangplank when the car balked. The chauffeur got out and tried to turn the engine over. He turned the crank times enough to make an organ grinder's fortune, but the machine

ouldn't go. The owner twiddled with the gas and spark levers, but all to no purpose. The machine wouldn't even cough.

Meantime there were truck drivers. cursing according to their lights, who wanted to get on board, and the deck hands were standing around and looking comments. If any one had offered a helpful suggestion there would have been murder if the owner's looks counted for

murder if the owner's looks counted for anything.

It was getting nearer and nearer time for the boat to leave, so the truckmen got the signal to come on board. They turned off down the left chute and had to twist in again to the right further forward and then back down until they came in behind the stalled auto. Eventually all the wargons and other autos were on and

in behind the stalled auto. Eventually su
the wagons and other autos were on and
still the machine didn't start.
So the pilot gave the signal to go shead
and the boat departed, the chauffeur
still cranking away, while the automobile
proprietor was surveying him and the
receding shore with every appearance of
disfavor. It seemed like the well known
innate perversity of inanimate objects
that as soon as the boat was well out of
the slip the engine gave a couple of mans the slip the engine gave a couple of game and then began running like wild; and then it had to be shut on at once accord-

photographer. "If it wasn't for that we would do double our business.

"The officers of a concern may be enthusiastically in favor of having a set of pictures of the works, but they only when the general manager hands them a little slip showing just how much the time we use costs and how much net profit they are going to lose, &c., balanced against the speculative value of the pictures as business getters.

"Our price, no matter how high, outs no ice. It's the postage stamp account comparatively. For instance, we took a set of pictures of the Armour stockyards and plant. We were there an hour, The company paid only \$200 to us for the pictures, but it lost in time just \$4.200 for about the photographs. Four hundred and twenty dollars each is a pretty good price for pictures of beef."

In an industry, said the protection in that 400 be shut off at once according learned next day that the operation is the rules.

A man who was interested in the proceeding learned next day that the oar got off all right on the next trip back.

The Greedy Post Office.

From the National Magazine.

Some idea of the quantity of material used by the postal service may be gained when it is stated that during las, year the division furnished \$25,000,000 penels and \$2,800,000 blank cards. To wrap the bundles \$4,000,000 sheets of the pictures, but it lost in time just \$4,000, making paper were used. Blank forms are furnished by the millions. Of the form, which is seen in the lobby of every post offices, there were 161,776,000 used last year, and during the same iperiod \$6,000 penels and \$2,800,000 penels and

touch with actual life and that your to glean and what to avoid. fingers are right on the pulse of the great body of progress.

for any lack that it may possess.

is the person sought.

Bank for about three years.

GOOD MARKET FOR PUPPIES

WORK THAT BRINGS A WOMAN

AN INCOME OF \$1,000.

Requirements of a Kennel and Care of

the Doss-Kennel Expenses Not Large

There is a woman living near New

York who for the last seven years has

made an average of slightly over \$1,000 a

year by raising and selling high bred

puppies. She gets prices ranging from

"I had managed a kennel for a wel

known dog fancier several years before

going into the business for myself," the

woman said when asked to tell the re-

porter her rules for success. "Having s

small capital and being tired of following

winning family. This was also a puppy.

money on an unregistered dog.

fifteen to fifty dollars for them.

best. I determined to go in.

selected Boston terriers.

There are skyscrapers of formidable

lining the walls of this and two other

the brown tints of the book bindings people who come with proper introduclooks up from behind a vase containing tion, just as we have received similar sweet peas and quince leaves and replies courtesy from other downtown houses. mildly to the usual question that she

MISS SPENCER IS HER OWN CLIPPING BUREAU.

"They began to gather it in 1904 and it practically fills all necessary requirements. You may be surprised to know years. The finance of to-day does not

and some actual work in banking and ing and all of the evening papers left

"From these I clip all the items that official who may look them over. I exercise my own discretion in the matter "You feel," she says in a very low pitched, and by long and almost bitter experisoft toned voice, "that you are right in ence I have learned what information

looking volumes on the table desk within that rarely is there a demand that is not easy reach, the telephone is near by and covered by the data of the last fifteen

rooms are the books and files over which Miss Spencer presides For her duties "My own work? The most important she has prepared herself by a thorough is that of the early morning. As soon library training in a Western university as I get to the office I go over all the mornmonthly periodicals, trade journals and

it is not of the variety usually selected women, affords a certain stimulating excitement that more than makes amends

concern itself greatly with the past.
"My own work? The most important

commercial circles in Chicago. She has over from the previous afternoon; added been connected with the National City to these I read whatever weekly or Miss Spencer says that the work, while magazines have arrived.

"All these clippings, sometimes several hundred in number, are carefully pinned, "In other library work you are more after having been separated into classi-

INCREASING INTEREST IN FINANCIAL LITERATURE.

from the ground will do nicely "Dogs should not be allowed to sleep constantly on the floor or ground. Where several are kennelled in the same building a bench three feet wide with a strip six inches high running along the edge to keep in the bedding and on supports hold ing it a foot or so from the ground will be ing it a foot or so from the ground will be prices than any other house or pet dog. the Dogs-The Breeds to Select all that is necessary. Dry straw or hay

> newed at least once a week. "The floor of the kennel must be kept dry and swept once a day. Warmth and sunshine are essential to the healthfulness of a kennel. My kennels face the morning sun and the doors are left open in the

morning the year around. Dogs should be fed good food with unvarying regularity. I put this point unvarying regularity. I put this point is strongly because many people seem to think that feeding a dog regularly a few days and then whenever it is convenient shouldn't make any difference in the appearance of the animal. It does and always will so long as they are possessed of directive organs.

always will so long as they are possessed of digestive organs.

"I feed my grown dogs only once a day, in the afternoon. Their food should be varied and only as much as they will eat should be given them, as it is a bad plan another person's directions, especially when I felt they were not always for the "In the first place raising blooded dogs is no harder than raising mongrels. The to try to force them to eat what they do great question for the beginner to settle

not want.
"A beef's head or fresh bones and scraps s which breeds are the best sellers. I selected Boston terriers.

"Not being able to afford to buy a dog with a prize winning record I did the next best thing, bought a dog from a prize winning family. This was also a puppy, because I could not afford the price of an older dog and there was no use wasting money on an unregistered dog.

"A beef's head or fresh bones and scraps from the butcher with table scraps and vegetables make excellent soup for dogs. Corn meal cooked as thick mush, stale and broken bread and crackers from the butcher with table scraps and vegetables make excellent soup for dogs. Will reliable with their soup or stew. Fat of no sort is good for dogs. Though an occasional bite of raw meat is good. I never let them have it too often.

"Nursing mothers require about twice as much food as an idle dog. I give mine two good meals a day and if that is not two good meals a day and if that is not two good meals a day and if that is not two good meals a day and if that is not two good meals a day and if that is not specimens of English and French bulldogs, bull terriers, Boston terriers, Sootish terriers, Airedale terriers, Irish teris which breeds are the best sellers. I with a prize winning record I did the next best thing, bought a dog from a prize because I could not afford the price of an older dog and there was no use wasting

be had for pedigreed stock and good specimens of English and French bulldogs, bull terriers, Boston terriers, Scot-

enough I give them more. A well trained og will set you know if she is hungry, she list you know if she is hungry, she purpers. Airedale terriers, Irish terriers, Airedale terriers, Airedale terriers, Irish terriers, Irish terriers, Airedale terriers, Irish terriers, Irish terriers, Irish terriers, Irish terriers, Irish terriers, Airedale terriers, Irish terriers, Airedale terriers, Irish terriers, airedale terriers, Irish terrier, Iris

cate than the hardy terriers, and the owner should bear in mind that, like other house dogs, he is liable to pulmonary troubles. Care should be taken to keep him from running out into the cold from a heated house during cold weather, and "I make a specialty of training dogs to a limited extent. Of course a young dog that is housebroken commands a -Profits of the Business-Training of makes the best bedding. It should be re-

much better price than the same dog would fetch unbroken. I train the pup-pies to do simple tricks.

"The majority of people want their house dogs trained to keep out of the dining room during meals. This is a lesson that requires patience, self-command and perseverance. I usually accomplish it in one meal.

Before going to the table I put the dogs I am training in the next room, instructing them firmly but kindly to instructing them firmly but kindly to remain there. Of course they run after me and try to climb into my lap as soon as I take my seat. I speak to them gravely but not severely and taking them back into the next room make them take their seats just where I first placed them. Maybe this second time they will remain but a minute or so longer, but all too soon they are racing into the dining room and pulling at my skirts.

"I often repeat this performance as many as a dozen times before making them understand what is meant. When, how-

understand what is meant. When, however, they once get it into their minds they will sit contentedly and never budge until I snap my fingers for them to com-

me.
"I never scold or punish my dogs unless". Even if it is absolutely necessary. Even if I didn't care for the dog as an individual kindness would be to my advantage, as dogs show off much better when accustomed to kind treatment. I have known persons to refuse to take a beautifully marked puppy, a really fine animal, because it was cowed. They didn't realbecause it was cowed. They didn't real-ize that all that was needed to make it

HE WILL ASK' IT. Sammer Resolution of the Man With the Protruding Jaw.

The man with the protruding jaw and the rumbly voice was saying: "One of the gags of the ground and lofty funnvists for the last forty years or so has been about the man who inquires on a hot day 'Is it hot enough for

"Well, it's time that that gag was canned, cancelled, scratched, erased, written off, daubed out, cut away, lopped loose and sent to the bonevard along with a lot of other passe and decrepit gage that ought to've been tinned about the time that Artemus Ward and Josh Billings cashed in.

"What's the matter with the man who asks if it's hot enough for you?

"What's wrong about his question? "Why shouldn't he ask if it's hot enough for you?

"Why should he be a target for all these funnyists who pick up a little thing like that and masticate it and macerate it for a hundred years or so, till everybody who reads the first line knows the rest of it by heart, no matter in what way it's twisted?

"If the day is hot why shouldn't a man 88 V 80? When the day's cold we bleat about

it and discuss it and comment on it and compare thermometers and brag about how cold it is on our second story porch and make a whole peck of conversation about it. don't we? "If the rain comes down pretty steady

and powerful we're there with a lot of hefty stories, aren't we, about how we couldn't see our hands before us out our way, and all that kind of chinny bunk, there's a nifty little hailstorm we prattle about it, don't we, about the size of the hailstones in front of our house, and about what a narrow escape our fox terrier pup had from being killed by one of the hallstones when he foolishly scam-pered out into the yard, and how the

rattle of the hailstones on the roof sounded like the battle of Antistam—we're there, aren't we, with an endless chain of con-versational fluff-wuff about the hailstorm, aren't we? en't we?
"When we're blanketed by an un-"When we're blanketed by an unusual fog don't we all get out onto the gabfest firing line, and stake each other to more or less fanciful stories about the thickness of it out where we live, and how one of our young 'uns came near getting lost trying to get home from the grocery, to which he'd been sent to get a bar of soap, and how when we struck a match it didn't illuminate a radius of a quarter of an inch and refused to do more than sputter before going out—we converse largely and expansively through our chapeaux about the big young fog, don't we?

"Uh-huh. All right. Well then!

don't we?
"Uh-huh. All right. Well then!
"What's the matter with a man asking if it's hot enough for you?
"Heat is weather, isn't it? It's part of the climatic game, I presume?
"Then why should it be barred in the

betting? Why should the gaggists have been busy all these years with the pleasant spoken, good natured that who, just by way of a greeting that comes natural to him, asks if it's hot enough for you?

"You don't want him to say when he meets you on a sizzling day that you're wearing a burn hat, or that your feet are not mates, or that your trousers need pressing, or that he hears you were stewed to the necktie night before last, or that he wishes your wife'd quit practising on the piano for the balance of the summer, do you? summer, do you?

Well, he doesn't do any of these things.
He just ups and asks you, to be civil and to pass the time of day, if it's hot enough

to pass the time of day, if it's hot enough for you; and if you're not a grouch and a crab, and if you have any thinking power of your own, and if you don't permit yourself to be swayed and bullied by these gaggists that I'm talking about you'll just make reply as to whether it's hot enough for you, like you'd reply to any other civil question, and let it go at that

any other civil question, and let it go at that.

"All of the fellows that I know who ask me if it's hot enough for me are bully decent chaps, people that I like and nothing whatever like the pulpnuts portrayed by the jokesmiths. They're all right. I hope they'll keep right on asking that question as long as they live and that after they die they'll—er—well, no, I don't wish that, of course; but say, on the level now, and all of this extraneous matter aside, is it hot enough for you?" FIRST HAT WEARERS IN EUROPE

Beginning of the Custem-Obliged by Law to Wear Woollen Cap. From the London Chronicle. Charles VII. on his triumphant entry into Rouen in the year 1449, we are told, aston-ished the whole city by appearing in a hat lined with red silk and surmounted by a

plume of feathers. It was the first time the

citizens had ever seen a hat.

From this entry of Charles's into Rouen the beginning of the custom of wearing hats in Europe is dated. It was all very well for the rich citizen to follow the example of royalty, but when the clergy began to sigh for similar splendor it was regarded as a falling away from grace. Priests or religious persons were at last forbidden to appear abroad in anything except "chaperons, made of black cloth with decent coronets A still more striking development took place in the sixteenth century. statute of 13 Elizabeth every person above statute of 13 Elizabeth every person above the age of 7 years, and under a certain de-gree, was obliged on Sundays and holidays to "wear a woollen cap—made in England— and finished by some of the fraternity cap-pers," under the penalty of three shillings fourpence for every day's neglect. They understood how to support native indus-tries in those days.

Post Office Long in One Family.

From Tit-Bite. The sub-post office at Church Hill, under Enniskillen, County Fermanagh, has been in the family of the present sub-postmaster since the year 1750. It has been handed down in direct succession from father to

son since then.

Thomas Wood, great-grandfather of the present holder of the office, was appointed in 1750. Robert Wood, the present sub-postmaster, who is ever seventy years of age, will in all probability be succeeded by his son.